

Dr. John O'Brien

Dr. John N. O'Brien, appointed to the Florida Energy Commission in 2007, has more than 30 years of professional experience in the energy business. He received his Master's and Doctorate degrees at the Maxwell School of Public Administration, Syracuse University; and his Bachelor's Degree in chemistry, also from Syracuse University. His background is a strong mix of science, and energy-sector business, economics and leadership.

Dr. O'Brien currently is President and CEO of Vista Energy Group. He has held high-level executive positions at Global Change Associates, an international energy consultancy, and Skipping Stone, Inc, a domestic US energy consultancy. He is experienced in energy-sector investment banking and analysis and founding and building energy businesses.

Dr. O'Brien founded and served as President and CEO of Wheeled Electric Power Company, All Power Corporation, and Direct Gas Supply Corporation, Corporation – all retail suppliers of natural gas and electricity. He also served the United States Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory in the Department of Nuclear Energy as a Scientist.

Dr. O'Brien is an experienced public speaker on many electricity and natural gas-market topics. He has testified on these and other subjects before the United States Congress, and several state legislatures and regulatory bodies. He also has conducted training sessions for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and others.

Dr. O'Brien's experience includes the restructuring and functioning of the electric and natural gas markets and infrastructure in the U.S. and Canada. He also has substantial knowledge of implementing clean-coal technologies, climate-change issues and markets, generation plant siting, nuclear power-plant permitting and licensing, permitting and project finance mineral-rights and royalty issues, among other things.